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THROUGHOUT FOLDER

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SECRET

7 February 1956

BACKGROUND--JORDAN WATER DIVERSION

I. The average annual flow of the Jordan at Banat Yacov is estimated at 20.26 cubic meters per second.

II. Israel's Banat Yacov canal is to have a maximum capacity of 25 cbm. per sec.

A. In 1953, Israelis stated that, during low summer flow, their canal would take all of Jordan waters above Tiberias estimated at 8 cbm. per sec during summer months.

B. Israelis also stated, however, that--for seven months of low flow--all diverted water would be returned to Lake Tiberias.

C. Suggested that Syria could be compensated for loss of water in this stretch by using electric power from Israeli plant to pump water from Lake Tiberias to Syrian lands.

SECRET

iii. Johnston plan does not envisage diversion of Jordan water for power purposes along this portion of the river. Plan calls for power projects on two Jordan tributaries instead--the Hasbani in the north and the Yarmuk to the east.